

CIA HEADQUARTERS

From 2430 E Street to Langley

It's hard to believe that CIA Headquarters left Washington, D.C.'s Foggy Bottom 10 years ago. While there is nothing magic about the number 10, it nevertheless affords us an excuse to reflect and comment on our "log cabin" beginnings.

For many of us the association with the Agency started in Foggy Bottom and ^{at} 2430 E Street with landmarks such as Heurich's Brewery, Pete's "greasy spoon", Watergate Inn, and Riverside Skating Rink. The memories of that era also include the campus-like life in the stillstanding East, South and Central Buildings area and the courtyard there filled with large, beautiful weeping cherry trees. And who could forget the Tempos, now erased, of I, J, K, L, M, Q and Buildings "13" and 14, Barton and Alcott Halls, R and S, and North Building. But for many others, life with the Agency began in this Headquarters building.

For all of us then, the occasion of our 10th Anniversary in the new building seems to be an appropriate time to show a nostalgic collection of photographs of Agency buildings we were housed in before we moved out to Langley. This exhibit also seeks to convey some of the excitement in the forms of patterns of ^{the} new building and its environs which perhaps, for many, go unnoticed. We are including a few

pictures covering the construction phase of the new building too, since few employees were on the site at that time.

Experience has shown that the building is not only functionally well designed but it is also visually exciting. Time has also shown that the Agency's early leaders and Congress were uncommonly foresighted in extending the George Washington Memorial Parkway and selecting this site for the Agency.

Mr. Allen W. Dulles, Director of CIA at that time, had a great personal interest in the development of a natural campus environment as a setting for the headquarters. After the site was chosen Mr. Dulles could be seen on weekends carefully labeling trees which he wished preserved.